

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated June 3, 2003, and a telephone interview with the Examiner on July 31, 2003. Claims 22 and 23 are amended to correct minor informalities in the claims. Claims 5-25 remain pending.

None of the claims are rejected. Claims 22-25 are objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 1.75 as being substantial duplications of claims 14-16 and 18. The Examiner refers to MPEP § 706.03(k) in support of the objection to claims 22-25. Section 706.03(k) mentions that claims may be objectionable if there is only "a slight difference" in wording between the claims. In the present situation claims 14 and 22 contain more than a slight difference in wording, thus the objection is without basis. Applicants have the right to claim their invention "in a reasonable number of ways." MPEP § 706.03(k). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 8/27/03

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428



22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 672-5582

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Howard N. Shipley
Registration No. 39,370
Pavan K. Agarwal
Registration No. 40,888
Attorneys for Applicant

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 190741 for any such fees; and applicants hereby petition for any needed extension of time.